

# Rockets coach takes issue

EDITOR'S NOTE: The story of the two great games Vernon Essos played over the weekend in B.C. Junior A Hockey has been pre-empted in today's issue of The Vernon News in favor of the following statement sent via telegram from former newspaperman and now general manager of the Kamloops Rockets, Jack Tennant.

Kamloops Rockets coach Joe Tennant Friday took exception to statements attributed to him in a newspaper story on page five of the Dec. 13 issue of The Vernon News.

In that story Mr. Tennant was quoted as saying: "There is no reason why a team with such low calibre players and even worse type of men to run a team can keep winning."

The team referred to was the Vernon Essos.

Mr. Tennant flatly denied making that statement.

He said, "I have nothing but the highest respect and regard for the Vernon players and the Vernon team management and at no time have I ever thought or said otherwise."

The Dec. 13 story also attributed a statement in quotes, to coach Tennant that, "Those Vernon players are so dumb they can be made to do anything, especially take penalties."

"Never in my life have I referred to the Vernon Hockey players as being dumb," said Mr. Tennant.

The story also quoted the Kamloops coach as stating, "We beat them with our fists then (referring to a previous game) and we will do it again this week."

Once again Mr. Tennant was emphatic in his denial of such a statement.

This type of reporting is highly inflammatory and does nothing to promote the game.

The Kamloops coach said he didn't mind the Vernon newspaper and sports editor Doug Bulwer attempting to generate some interest in Tuesday's game but regretted that the attempt had to deteriorate to using untruths and fictitious statements.

Mr. Tennant said the Kamloops club uses a different approach to providing entertaining junior hockey on that they only have one 19-year-old player.

"Vernon has seen fit to use as many as six 19-year-old players therefore Vernon has a much older club than ours but this is Vernon's business.

"Vernon and Kamloops have provided exciting, spirited hockey for fans in both cities and I'm sure the management of the Vernon Hockey Club agrees with me that we don't need this type of publicity," he said.

Mr. Tennant requested a published apology for the highly inflammatory Dec. 13 story.

(Signed) J. C. (Jack) Tennant, General Manager.

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## Bowlers of the week



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## Junior hockey

# Penticton here Tuesday night

Front running Vernon Essos of the B.C. junior A league take

to home ice Tuesday as they face second place Penticton Broncos in an 8:30 p.m. start.

## Local swimmer places well at Victoria

Petite Vernon Miss Terri Miller, placed second in her level of the synchronized swimming competition at Victoria last weekend during festival of sports contest.

The other members of the group: Mrs. Dorothy Regher, Mrs. Bev Swanson, Debbie Mitchell, Penny Runge and Jenny Regher were active in judging and practice judging and all wrote their respective levels of the Provincial Judges' exams.

The clinic-competition was a tremendous learning experience for all involved and was accented Saturday night by the demonstration of Canadian Synchronized Championship Routines.

The group hopes to put their knowledge to work in January when the new Synchronized Classes start at the Vernon Community Centre.

Essos hold a ten point bulge over their nearest rivals the Broncos and the game should prove interesting to see whether the Essos can take another pair of points away from the visitors.

In five previous games with Penticton, Essos have taken the edge in the win column by a 3-2 difference and going into the Tuesday game hold a seven game winning streak, something they would like nothing better to extend.

In their 27 games played to date, Essos have won all but five matches, a record any team would be envious of, but, the Penticton crew in the last meeting of the two clubs did take a 6-3 win away from the

Essos and are rated an excellent chance of doing the same thing Tuesday night.

Meanwhile Essos have placed the first five players in the top ten individual scoring list of the League with John Price heading the Vernon group with his big 69 point total (counting Sundays three points gained on two goals and a single assist).

Others in the top five are: Jim Lawrence, Ernie Gare, Ed Johnstone and Wayne Dye in that order.

Taking nothing away from another ace Vernon player, Les Salo, is also sitting in number eight position of the league best 10 players, with Glen Walton just two off the pace in 12th spot.

Complete list of the best 20 point or better players is in Today's Vernon News.

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# B.C. Jr. hockey statistics

Point Leaders to mid-December, 1971

	GP	G	A	Pts	Pen	PiM
1 John Price, Vernon	26	24	46	66	16	51
2 Jim Lawrence, Vernon	26	15	48	63	18	50
3 Ernie Gare, Vernon	24	19	36	55	17	57
4 Ed Johnstone, Vernon	26	24	25	49	18	76
5 Wayne Dye, Vernon	23	27	21	48	19	91
6 Bruce Affleck, Penticton	26	14	34	48	15	36
7 Jerry Holland, Kamloops	25	28	17	45	15	38
8 Les Salo, Vernon	25	23	13	36	8	24
9 Rich Kramp, Chilliwack	25	9	26	35	5	13
10 Bob Nicholson, Penticton	26	17	17	34	8	18
11 Tim Peck, Kamloops	25	12	20	32	10	42
12 Glen Walton, Vernon	21	14	14	28	10	61
13 Ron Greschner, Chilliwack	25	12	15	27	26	53
14 Dennis Anderson, Chilliwack	25	11	14	25	7	13
15 Ken Selinger, Kelowna	16	8	17	25	9	26
16 Mark Patterson, Penticton	26	7	18	25	3	6
17 Don Corman, Vancouver	25	8	16	24	9	18
18 Curt Brackenbury, Kamloops	24	9	14	23	21	61
19 Ron Popadenetz, Chilliwack	24	14	8	22	13	29
20 Chad Campbell, Penticton	20	12	10	22	8	24
21 Ron Poole, Penticton	26	13	8	21	6	15
22 Phil Blake, Kelowna	15	11	10	21	1	2
23 Rob Hesketh, Chilliwack	25	8	13	21	17	40
24 Don Ashby, Kamloops	25	7	13	20	6	26

## GOALIES

	GP	Min	P	S	GA	SO	Ave
<b>Vernon</b>							
Mike Smithson	19	1048	468	40	3	2.1	
Earl Bowie	10	512	237	41	0	4.1	
<b>Penticton</b>							
Glen Bueckert	20	1180	507	66	1	3.3	
Bob Love	7	380	380	20	0	2.85	
<b>Chilliwack</b>							
Lee Houim	22	1234	583	79	0	3.59	
Tom George	6	266	121	21	0	3.5	
<b>Richmond-Vancouver</b>							
Charlie Briskham	12	662	311	39	1	3.25	
Jerome Keller	8	410	209	38	0	4.75	
<b>Kamloops</b>							
Garth Malarchuk	22	1176	576	70	1	3.18	
Ron Burgess	7	324	152	32	0	4.57	
<b>Kelowna</b>							
Rick Tkalcic	4	160	82	15	0	3.75	
Ron Bourcier	23	1216	671	109	0	4.7	

Doerksen goal.

# B.C. junior A standings

to and including

Dec. 19, 1971.	GP	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA
Vernon Essos	27	22	5	0	44	175	82
Penticton Broncos	27	16	9	2	34	121	90
Chilliwack Bruins	27	13	12	2	28	109	106
Richmond Cents.	28	10	16	2	22	100	144
Kamloops Rockets	26	8	12	6	22	99	107
Kelowna Buckaroos	27	4	19	4	12	93	168
goal total					697	697	

# Thinking of Moving?



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